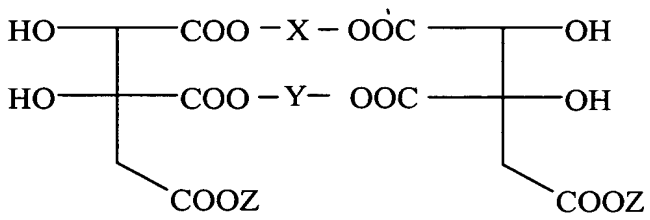
CLAIMS

1. Triple metal salts of (-)-hydroxycitric acid having the general formula 1



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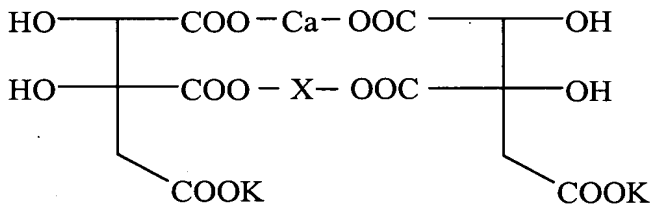
wherein X, Y are selected from zinc or group IIA metal and
Z is selected from group IA metal of the Periodic Table.

2. The triple metal salts of (-)-hydroxycitric acid having the formula 2



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wherein X is magnesium or zinc

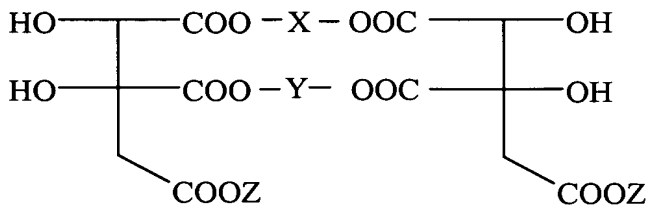
3. The triple metal salts of (-)-hydroxycitric acid as claimed in claims 1 and 2 wherein at least two metals are independently selected from zinc or a group II A metal and Z is a metal selected from group 1A of the Periodic Table.

4. The triple metal salts as claimed in claims 1 to 3, wherein group IIA metals are independently selected from Be, Mg, Ca, Sr, Ba or Ra in the form of their carbonates, oxides or hydroxides.

5. The triple metal salts as claimed in claims 1 to 3 wherein group IA metals are selected from Li, Na, K, Rb, Cs or Fr in the form of carbonates of hydroxides.

6. The triple metal salts as claimed in claim 1, containing 50 to 75% of HCA, 0 to 0.5% of lactone, 3 to 8% of calcium, 1 to 5% of magnesium and 8 to 20% of potassium.

7. A process for preparing triple metal salts of (-)-hydroxycitric acid of the formula 1



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which comprises the slow addition 0.5 molar equivalent of group II A metal compound to the purified aqueous extract of hydroxycitric acid followed by the addition of other group II A 0.5 molar equivalent of metal compound and 1 molar equivalent of group I A metal compound.

8. A process of preparing a purified aqueous extract of (-)-HCA comprising passing the water extract of Garcinia rind through anion exchange column followed by cation exchange column or by treating the insoluble calcium hydroxycitrate with phosphoric acid.

9. A process for the preparation of triple salts of HCA comprising reacting a suspension of calcium hydroxycitrate with aqueous magnesium carbonate followed by aqueous potassium hydroxide solution.

10. A process for the preparation of triple salts of HCA comprising reacting an aqueous tripotassium hydroxycitrate with equimolar amounts of calcium hydroxycitrate and magnesium hydroxycitrate.

11. The processes as claimed in any one of the claims 7 to 10 wherein the metal compounds are hydroxides, oxides and carbonates of calcium, zinc or magnesium and potassium.

12. The process as claimed in any one of the claims 7 to 10 wherein said triple salt is separated from the reaction mixture by adding water miscible solvents and filtering or by spray drying the aqueous solution.

13. The process as claimed in claim 12, wherein said water miscible solvents are alcohols, acetone, acetonitrile, dioxan, tetrahydrofuran or mixtures thereof.

14. A therapeutic formulation containing triple salts of HCA as claimed in claim 1, for treating obesity.

15. A dietary or nutraceutical formulation containing triple metal salts of (-)-HCA as claimed in claim 1.

16. A beverage containing triple metal salts of (-)-HCA as claimed in claim 1.